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Vol. III. No. 19.

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BLOOMFIELD, N. J. FRIDAY, MAY 28, 1875.

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Orthography.

The public taste was falling fast,
As through our country broad there passed
A banner with the motto queer:
"Orthography!"

His brow was sad, his arm below
A dictionary huge did show;
And like a pedagogue he sneered
In accents of an unknown tongue:
"Orthography!"

In happy schools he saw the light
Of youthful eyes gleam free and bright;
He changed their laughter to a moan;
And from their lips escaped a groan:
"Orthography!"

Through all the land the shade went round;
State after state gave up the ground,
In vain fell many a warning race;
The sound filled all the startled air:
"Orthography!"

Our country, by the dismal night,
Was plunged in ruin deep as night,
Still gazing with its latest breath,
That mystic word, the cause of death:
"Orthography!"

There, overwhelmed in fatal fray,
America, the peerless, lay;
And spirits in sad dance and shout,
And from their lips fell the sound:
"Orthography!"

Spoke the quiet funeral wail,
That neither came nor neither failed;
Spoke—sad part in our own pain,
Never more to meet again.

Sometimes, underneath the moon,
On some lone night of June—
When white clouds float o'er the blue,
And the pale orb glimmers through,
He faintly challenges to the rose.

And the liberal pine tree flings
Perfume on the midnight's wings—
Come, with thrills of hope and fear,
Mystic sense that she was near:

Came the thought—through good and ill
She lives, and she remembers still,
But, as word came or went,
And, when nine long years were spent,
Something in my bosom said—
Very softly—she is dead.

Now, at some Autumn eve,
Wandering where the woodlands grieve,
Or where wild winds whistle free
On the hills that from the sea,
Cry thoughts of love and loss
And my spirit to the cross.

Orthograms.

The inconsistency in our orthography
is something fearful to contemplate.
To-morrow spells "courage," and the man
that first spelled "courage," no should have been
"courage." "A-c-l-a spells "courage," and
that's all you can make out of it. "E-a-g-h-t spells "eight," no matter how
you deprive it the idea; and that
"f-o-r-m" is enough to make anybody
"form," if the effort were not too igni-

"Is your name Jones?" inquired a
Detroit man, as he pulled the bell at a door.
"Does it say Jones on the doorplate?"
"No," replied the man, pointing to his
name on the plate. "Do those letters
spell Jones?" "I dunno," replied the
stranger. "I'm no judge of spellin, but I
know Jones lives in this ward some-
where."

It was discovered that a deaf man
carried off (the house) a young match,
Sympathizing with his infirmity, the an-
nunciator had given the champion the
words to be spelled on a ship of paper.
After the exposure by a man who was all
ears, the success of the deaf man was not
so pronounced.

The historic modest woman who wanted
pantaloons put on the piano by her
pleasure set down and out of her niche to
make room for Mrs. Keen of Springfield,
who declined to let her daughters partici-
pate in a spelling match because she
understood some knotty words were to be
given to it.

The coming insane asylum keeper to
visit: "Do you mean that man with his
head in bed, his eyes cut down and his
lips moving? Oh, yes; he was spelled
down, too; but he keeps right on the
same; I believe his word is "syz-
zy."

He had a jockey-style of cap on, a
leather band across his waist, his trousers
tucked inside his boots and was aged
19. "Mik and spelling matches for
babies," he exclaimed curling his upper
lip; "but as for me, gimme base
ball!"

A Fatal Practical Joke.

A practical joker named Edward Cole,
of Penn Yan, was recently killed by his
brother-in-law, George Pierce. Cole came
home and knocked at the door for a joke.
When asked "Who's there?" he answered,
"Your mother or your wife?" Not be-
lieving admitted he went to the rear of
the house, and pulling off his boots he climbed
upon the shed, and effected his entrance
through a window. Mr. Pierce who sleeps
down stairs, hearing him cried out, "Don't
come into this house or I will kill you."
Seizing a butcher knife, he started up
claiming Mr. Cole all the time keeping his
chair, stood at the head of the stairs in
the dark to receive him. Mr. Pierce im-
mediately grasped with the supposed
assassin; and during the encounter cut
his throat with the butcher knife, sever-
ing the jugular vein. The young man ex-
claimed, "You have killed Edward Cole!
My poor wife and children!" and died.
Mr. Pierce is about thirty-eight years of
age, and one of the best citizens of Yates
County. Mr. Cole, his brother-in-law,
was younger, also from an excellent fam-
ily, and of the highest integrity. He and
his brother-in-law have been warm inti-
mate friends, and their families greatly
attached to each other.

How to Camp Out at the Beach.

Where shall we spend our next Sum-
mer vacation, boys? Perhaps you do not
yet, but you will think so by the time
the hot, bright days begin to make the
school hours tedious.

So we propose to take time by the fore-
lock and tell you now of a real jolly way
of spending a part of those vacation
weeks.

Some of you will go to Saratoga, or
Long Branch, or the White Mountains,
with your parents, although such a way
of spending a vacation requires a heavier
pocket-book than many of us possess.

Yet when we get back next Fall, and
school begins again, we will want just
that those who go with us will bring back
such reports of a grand, good time that
you will all want to join our party next
year.